Reservation to economically Backward Classes

3676. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1825, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th March 2008 and state:

(a) how much time the Commission for fixing the reservation critieria is likely to take to complete its study and for submitting its report to Government;

(b) whether Government has given any specific time-limit to this Commission for formulating the procedure and quantum of reservation likely to be given to economically backward classes; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The tenure of the Commission for Economically Backward Classes has been extended up to 31.7.2008 for submitting its Report.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Old Age Homes

3677. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a provision for setting up Old Age Homes in every district, as per the legislation passed by the Parliament last year;

(b) if so, how many Old Age Homes have been built, so far, and how many of them have become operational;

(c) whether Government would consider building separate Old Age Homes for widowed and destitute or deserted women in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) As per Section 19 of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior citizens Act, 2007, it is for the State Governments to establish and maintain Old Age Homes in a phased manner and prescribe a scheme for their management.

Rehabilitation centres for disabled persons

†3678. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government allocates funds to State Governments, for rehabilitation centres for disabled persons;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated under this scheme to Chhattisgarh, Mahdhya Pradesh and Orissa during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Funds are not allocated State-wise. Instead, funds are released to the Composite Regional Centres and District Rehabilitation Centres in the States.

Rise in atrocities on SC/ST

3679. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land related atrocities on SCs/STs have been increasing in the country, as per the report of the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is addressing these issues within the framework of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The data specifically in regard to land related offences of atrocities is not maintained by this Ministry. However, the cases registered under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was 31,387 cases in the year 2005 and 32,407 in the year 2006.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been addressing the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to implement provisions of the Act in letter and spirit. The suggested measures include sensitization of investigating officers, timely registration of First Information Report as well as filing of charge sheets in the courts, organising mass awareness generation programmes, effective redressal of land disputes and evolving a special package for development of identified atrocity prone areas. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, due central assistance is also provided to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations mainly for strengthening of the enforcement and judicial machinery, incentive for inter caste marriages, awareness generation and relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons.

Implementation of tribal land rights

†3680. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of law regarding the land rights of tribal people;

(b) the details of the plans of Government for its implementation region-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.